

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-2012-0002
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY
FILED JULY 12, 2012**

(Issued August 6, 2012)

On May 25, 2012, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) an application for a general increase in natural gas rates for Iowa customers. Board rules require a utility requesting a general rate increase to file certain information. Subparagraph 199 IAC 26.5(5)"e"(10) requires that IPL file all monthly or periodic financial and operating reports to management beginning two years preceding the application and the filing requirement is a continuing requirement through the final resolution of the general rate proceeding. On July 12, 2012, IPL filed its April 2012 Monthly Management and Accounting Reports as required by subparagraph 26.5(5)"e"(10).

Also on July 12, 2012, IPL filed an application for confidential treatment of the information in the management and accounting reports. IPL filed the affidavit of a corporate officer in support of the application for confidential treatment and filed the information for which confidential treatment is sought separately as provided for in the Board's electronic filing system.

IPL states that the information for which it is requesting confidential treatment should be protected from disclosure to the public pursuant to either Iowa Code § 22.7(3) as trade secrets or Iowa Code § 22.7(6) as a report to a government agency which, if released, would give advantage to competitors and serve no public purpose. The monthly management and accounting reports contain financial and confidential data relating to IPL as well as IPL affiliates, some of which are not regulated and operate in competitive markets. The competitors of those affiliates could have the ability to benefit unfairly from release of these financial details.

The Board will grant the application for confidential treatment. Iowa Code § 22.7(6) provides that reports to a government agency which, if released, would give advantage to competitors and serve no public purpose may be kept confidential. The Board finds that the monthly management and accounting reports meet the requirements of Iowa Code § 22.7(6) and should be protected from public disclosure. The information is filed pursuant to Board rules and contains information that competitors could use and that could increase the cost of gas for IPL customers. In addition, release of the information would serve no public purpose.

Since the Board has found the information is protected from public disclosure pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7(6), it is unnecessary to address whether it is a trade secret under Iowa Code § 22.7(3).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for confidential treatment filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on July 12, 2012, is granted under the provisions of Iowa Code § 22.7(6).

2. The information shall be held confidential by the Board subject to the provisions of 199 IAC 1.9(8)"b"(3).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

/s/ Darrell Hanson

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper

Executive Secretary, Deputy

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 6th day of August 2012.